



G A L D E F



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GENDER EQUALITY DEMANDS THAT THE RIGHTS OF ALL CHILDREN BE PROTECTED EQUALLY

Female genital cutting in the US has been outlawed, leaving biological males and intersex children unprotected. If we in the LGBTQIA+ community truly believe in gender equality, we must become advocates for ALL children and promote policies and laws that protect their autonomy. Otherwise, such inequities expose our American cultural chauvinism and hypocrisy.

It's pointless to argue about gender-based competitive suffering. All children deserve an open future that respects their bodies, sexuality and human rights. This goal is logically consistent with the principles of the LGBTQIA+ movement.

AFFIRMING RIGHTS. PROTECTING CHOICE. REDRESSING HARM.

WILL YOU SPEAK UP FOR CHILDREN?

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Who Should Decide How Much of a Child's Genitals They Get to Keep?

CIRCUMCISION & The LGBTQIA+ Community

MOST OF THE WORLD DOES NOT PRACTICE CIRCUMCISION BUT IN THE UNITED STATES UP TO 80% OF ADULT MALES BORN BEFORE 1975 WERE CUT AT BIRTH

- In North America, genital cutting customs are imposed on those too young to consent
- Circumcision is extremely painful and medically unnecessary
- Circumcision removes what would become 50% of the penile shaft skin and the only movable part of the penis
- The foreskin is the most densely nerve-laden, erogenous part of the penis, anatomically equivalent to the clitoral foreskin and labia
- Circumcision occurs in societies that oppress women, people of color, LGBTQIA+ people and children
- Circumcision in the US has a racist history and is rooted in anti-sexual beliefs that treat children as chattel
- Forced childhood circumcision violates rights of body ownership, self-determination and control over one's reproductive organs

CIRCUMCISION NEGATIVELY IMPACTS THE LGBTQIA+ COMMUNITY

- Most gay/bisexual men, transgender women, and some intersex persons born before 1975 were cut at birth
- The average rate of newborn circumcision in the US is still 50%, with over 1.25 million babies subjected each year to circumcision (often without anesthesia)
- 5-10% of children born today will eventually identify as gay, bisexual, intersex or transgender. Many will resent having been circumcised as a violation of their bodily integrity and autonomy, including some trans women whose penile foreskin could have been used in adult gender-affirming surgery to create a deeper, more sensitive neovagina

CIRCUMCISION IS ANTI-FEMINIST

- The core principles of feminism include respect for the right of every person to control what's done to their body
- Cultural pressures to circumcise intrude on a parent's natural instincts to protect her child from harm
- Defenders of male circumcision, fearing its prohibition, argue that gender equality can be better achieved by legalizing the lesser forms of female circumcision that are equivalent to or less invasive than male circumcision

CIRCUMCISION IS SEXUALLY OPPRESSIVE AND VIOLATES CHILDREN'S HUMAN RIGHTS



Our mission is to support plaintiffs and attorneys to create impact litigation to secure legal protection of the child's right to bodily integrity and to raise the funds necessary to support winnable cases.

